

Representative Michel. Yeah, thank you very much, Mr. President.

The President. Take care of that shoulder, Bob.

Representative Michel. [Inaudible]—I would have to agree with the assessment. It got confrontational at times, but it's nice to leave in an amicable mood when we're talking the same language. We'll be back next year.

The President. Can't wait to see you.

Representative Michel. Happy Thanksgiving to both you and Mrs. Clinton.

The President. Thank you.

Speaker Foley. Goodbye, sir.

The President. Goodbye, Mr. Speaker.

Senator Mitchell. Okay, thank you again, Mr. President. Have a good Thanksgiving.

The President. Thank you, Senator Mitchell.

Senator Mitchell. Talk to you soon.

The President. Bless you. Bye-bye.

[At this point, the telephone conversation ended.]

The President. I would just like to say before we leave, on behalf of the Vice President and the Attorney General and myself, that we believe very passionately in the Brady bill. As all of you who were involved in the campaign know, I spoke about it at every campaign stop and every country crossroads in this country. But none of this would have ever happened if it hadn't been for the courage and dedication and constancy of Jim and Sarah Brady. They worked

for 7 years for this day. This is their victory, and I'm glad to be a small part of it.

And I hope that it means what I believe it does, which is that the American people are serious about our doing something about mindless violence, about the terrible conditions under which our young people are laboring, where so many of the children are being shot, weapons of mass destruction that they shouldn't even have in the cities or anywhere else in this country. And I hope this is the beginning of our effort to rebuild the fabric of this country from the grassroots up.

Our administration is dedicated to that. The Attorney General has spent her life working on it. And if this is the beginning of what I think it is, then the entire Nation owes Jim and Sarah Brady even more than for the Brady bill; they have changed the focus of our Nation. It's high time. It took them too many years to do it. What a wonderful Thanksgiving for them. And we are thankful for them. Thank you very much.

James Brady. Thank you, Mr. President.

NOTE: The President spoke at 2:50 p.m. in the Oval Office at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to former White House Press Secretary James Brady, who was wounded in the 1981 assassination attempt on President Ronald Reagan, and his wife, Sarah, head of Handgun Control, Inc.

Statement on the Nomination for Commander in Chief of the United States Southern Command

November 24, 1993

I am pleased to announce that I have nominated Lt. Gen. Barry R. McCaffrey to succeed Gen. George A. Joulwan as Commander in Chief of U.S. Southern Command and for promotion to the rank of General, United States Army.

Lieutenant General McCaffrey has had a long and brilliant career spanning nearly three decades. He has served our Nation proudly in four combat tours and in seven foreign nations. As commanding general of the 24th Infantry Division, he deployed the division to Saudi Arabia and led it on combat missions essential to the

success of Operation Desert Storm. In addition, his performance in sensitive and demanding staff positions in Washington, including his current role as Director for Strategic Plans and Policy, Joint Staff, has distinguished him as one of our Nation's foremost military analysts and strategists. He has fully demonstrated both the military expertise and political acumen needed to fill one of our most strategically important postings.

I have asked Lieutenant General McCaffrey to apply his considerable talents to enhancing the important security relationships we have de-

veloped with our neighbors in the region, to refining the role of the U.S. Southern Command in hemispheric affairs, and to continuing the

outstanding work done by General Joulwan. I have the utmost trust and confidence in his ability to do so.

Statement on the Technology Reinvestment Project

November 24, 1993

We're putting the people and expertise that helped America win the cold war to work on restoring America's industrial competitiveness. We are bringing together private industry, State and local governments, and community colleges to form technology deployment alliances. Together they will see to it that small manufacturers have access to the latest and best information, techniques, equipment, and know-how.

The TRP's industrial outreach program is designed to promote the best in American manufacturing practices and expertise. We mean to recreate in industrial America the same success

that the agricultural extension programs had in making America number one in agriculture. The States have pioneered programs to apply technology to industrial needs. With a Federal partner, these programs can help smaller defense firms adjust and compete in commercial markets. The goal is a simple one: more jobs for American workers.

NOTE: This statement was included in a White House announcement of the second group of awards in the technology reinvestment project.

Statement on Signing the Unemployment Compensation Amendments of 1993

November 24, 1993

Today I am pleased to sign into law H.R. 3167, the "Unemployment Compensation Amendments of 1993." This legislation will provide the unemployed and their families with important assistance by extending eligibility for the Emergency Unemployment Compensation (EUC) program to individuals exhausting their regular unemployment benefits. EUC benefits would be extended from last October 2 through February 5 of next year. In addition, the legislation will accelerate the reemployment of workers by requiring the establishment of a worker profiling system in each State to link workers most likely to experience long-term unemployment with effective job search assistance.

There are some important signs that the economy continues to improve and that a job recovery is underway. In the first 9 months of my Administration, our economy has created 1.3 million private sector jobs, which is more than were created in the previous 4 years combined. With the solid foundation provided by the enact-

ment of the economic program this summer, I believe the economy will continue to grow and create more new jobs.

However, the improvement in the economy is not yet solid enough to justify discontinuing the EUC program. It is therefore appropriate that we extend EUC to provide support to help unemployed workers pay their grocery bills and other living expenses while they seek new employment.

Just providing income support to the unemployed is not enough. The Administration is committed to moving from the present system that simply buffers the pain of unemployment toward a new system that speeds displaced workers into reemployment. The critical first step in this transformation is the requirement in this Act that States establish a worker profiling system.

Under these systems, workers filing for unem-